

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested. Claims 10-20 have been added. The specification, as filed, fully supports the claimed subject matter of claims 10-20. Accordingly, claims 1-20 are currently pending.

The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephone interview on September 30, 2003 to clarify the issued Office Action (Paper No. 11). As the Examiner will recall, the Examiner explained that a typographical error occurred in paragraph 5 of the Office Action and was rectified over the telephone.

Drawing Objections

The Office Action objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(4) and (5) for various informalities. The Applicants have carefully reviewed and corrected the drawings in red ink and attached herewith along with the specification. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the objections be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejected claims 1 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Smith et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,069,421 ("Smith") and in view of Yamamoto 4,496,866 ("Yamamoto"). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claims 1 and 6-9 recite, *inter alia*, an electric motor that includes a preformed cylindrical composite can member removably affixed to one of the stator and rotor.

The Office Action alleges that Smith suggests a preformed cylindrical composite can member removably affixed to one of the stator and rotor (see Office Action, §5). The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The combination of Smith and Yamamoto fail to teach or suggest each and every claim element of the invention as recited by claims 1 and 6-9. More particularly, Smith and Yamamoto, each and in combination, fail to teach or suggest a preformed cylindrical composite can member removably affixed to one of the stator and rotor.

Rather, Smith teaches a can member permanently affixed to one of the stator and rotor. More particularly, Smith describes an electric motor having a composite encapsulated stator and rotor for submersion into liquid (Smith, col. 2, lines 55-56). Smith also suggests the encapsulated stator having an outer composite layer comprised of an inwardly directed radial flange and inner composite layer comprised of an outwardly directed radial flange (Smith, col. 2, lines 31-34). Moreover, Smith teaches that each layer of the flange being sealed by a chemical weld (Smith, col. 2, lines 34-35). Accordingly, the flanges are permanently affixed to the stator. In other words, Smith teaches a composite can member that is permanently welded to the stator.

Unlike the invention, as recited by claims 1 and 6-9, that requires a removably affixed can member, Smith teaches away from a removably affixed can member. As described above, Smith teaches chemically welding the layers of the flange. Thus, Smith fails to teach or suggest a preformed cylindrical composite can member removably affixed to one of the stator and rotor, as recited by claims 1 and 6-9.

Yamamoto fails to correct this deficiency. Instead, Yamamoto describes a cylindrical can for protecting a stator core from liquid (Yamamoto, abstract). More specifically, Yamamoto

suggests the stator core is enclosed by the cylindrical can and sealed by molded resin members at the ends of the can (Yamamoto, col. 1, lines 45-48). Yamamoto also suggests that the cylindrical can is comprised of thin stainless steel (Yamamoto, col. 2, lines 28-29). Thus, Yamamoto teaches away from the claimed invention because stainless steel is not a composite material. Accordingly, Yamamoto fails to teach or suggest each and every claim element of the claimed invention.

Since Smith and Yamamoto each fails to suggest the invention as recited by claims 1 and 6-9, the combination of Smith and Yamamoto also fails to teach each and every claim element of the claimed invention. Accordingly, the invention as recited by claims 1 and 6-9 is patentable over the cited prior art.

The Office Action rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Smith in view of Yamamoto and in further view of Lipe et al. U.S. Patent No. 2,958,292 ("Lipe").

Claim 2 recites, *inter alia*, an electric motor that includes a preformed cylindrical composite can member removably affixed to one of the stator and rotor.

As described above, Smith and Yamamoto fail to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention. Lipe also fails to rectify the deficiencies of Smith and Yamamoto. More particularly, Lipe fails to suggest or teach a preformed cylindrical composite can member removably affixed to one of the stator and rotor.

Instead, Lipe suggests a stator with a cylindrical can with tapered or flared portions at either end (Lipe, col. 3, lines 10-12). Lipe also suggests that the cylindrical can is comprised of a thin corrosive-resistant material (Lipe, col. 3, lines 13-14). However, Lipe fails to teach or

suggest the material of the can being a composite and the cylindrical can being removable. Accordingly, Lipe fails to teach or suggest each and every claim element of the invention as recited by claim 2.

Since Smith, Yamamoto and Lipe each fails to suggest the invention as recited by claim 2, the combination of Smith, Yamamoto and Lipe also fails to teach each and every claim element of the claimed invention. Accordingly, the invention as recited by claim 2 is patentable over the cited prior art.

The Office Action rejected claims 1 and 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Smith in view of Yamamoto and in further view of Junpei et al. U.S. Patent No. 3,577,024 ("Junpei").

Claims 1 and 3-5 recite, *inter alia*, an electric motor that includes a preformed cylindrical composite can member removably affixed to one of the stator and rotor.

As described above, Smith and Yamamoto fail to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention. Junpei also fails to rectify the deficiencies of Smith and Yamamoto. More particularly, Junpei fails to suggest or teach a preformed cylindrical composite can member removably affixed to one of the stator and rotor.

Instead, Junpei suggests that a pair of oppositely directed helical grooves are formed on the peripheral surface of a rotor (Junpei, col. 1, lines 43-44). Junpei also suggests that the grooves create component of forces tending to push back cooling liquid (Junpei, col. 1, lines 47-48). However, Junpei fails to teach or suggest a can much a preformed cylindrical can being a composite and the cylindrical can being removable. Accordingly, Junpei fails to teach or suggest each and every claim element of the invention as recited by claims 1 and 3-5.

Since Smith, Yamamoto and Junpei each fails to suggest the invention as recited by claims 1 and 3-5, the combination of Smith, Yamamoto and Junpei also fails to teach each and every claim element of the claimed invention. Accordingly, the invention as recited by claims 1 and 3-5 is patentable over the cited prior art.

Claims 10-20 have been added to further define the invention. Claims 10-21 are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1-9.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anderson I. Chen', with a stylized, flowing script.

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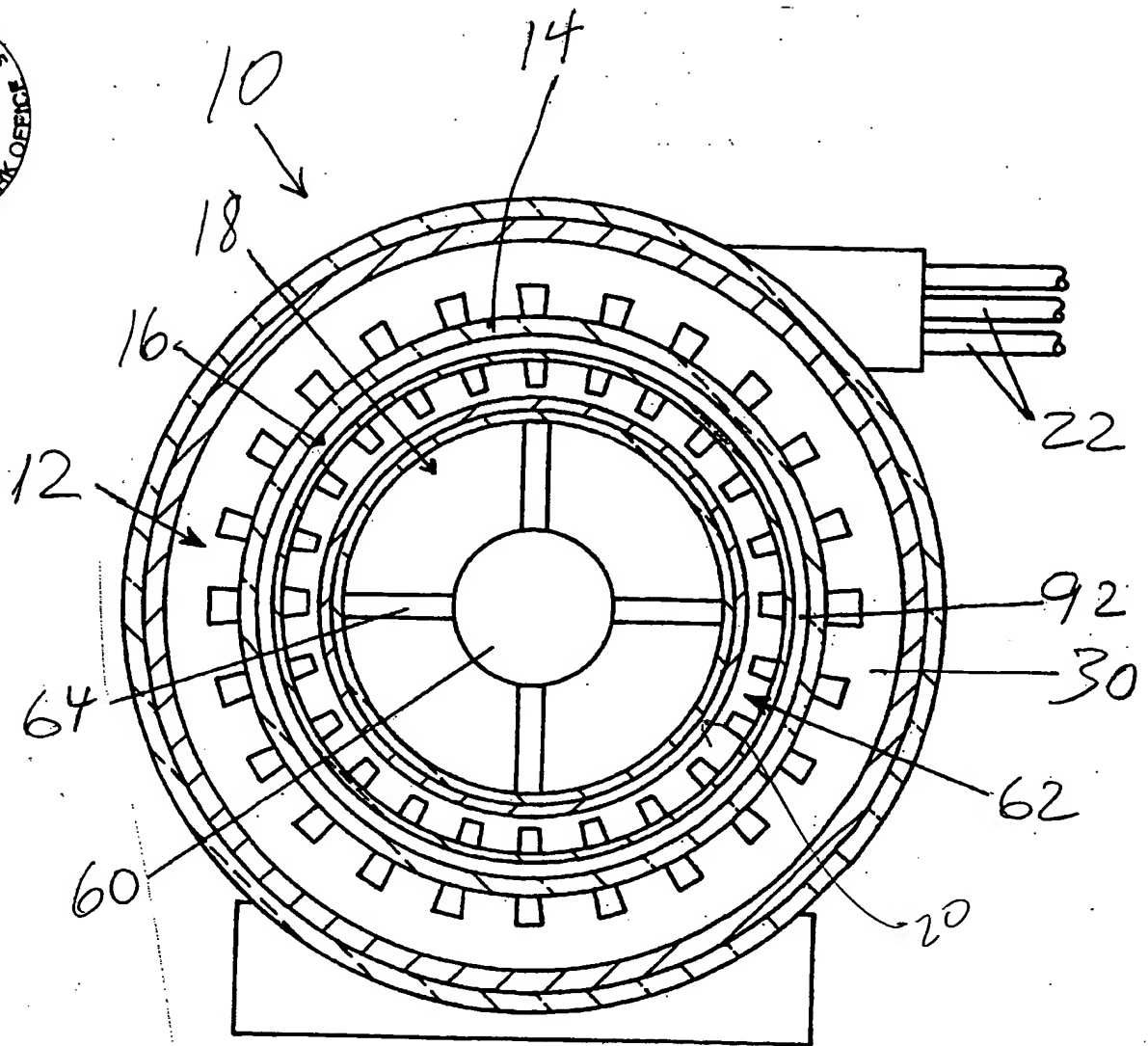
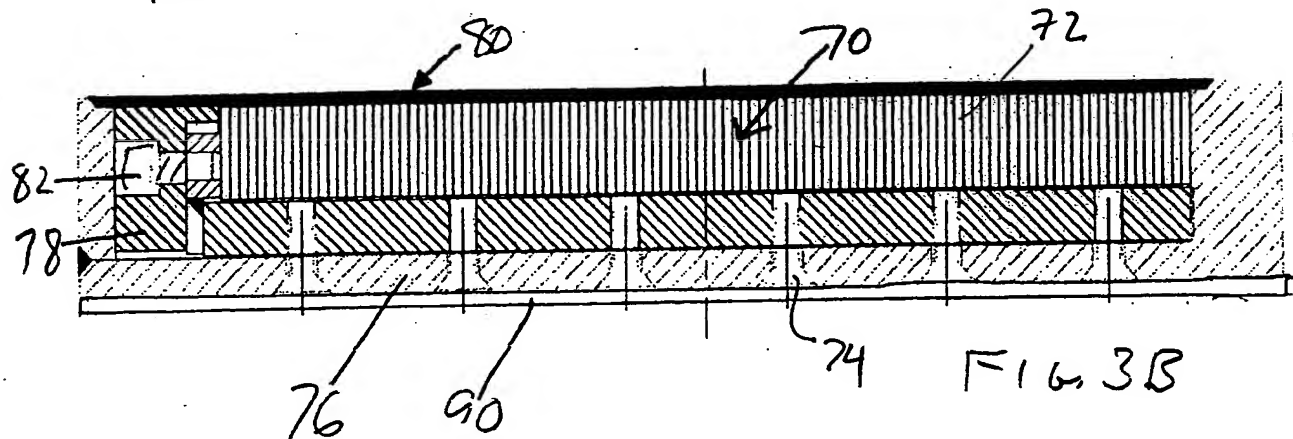
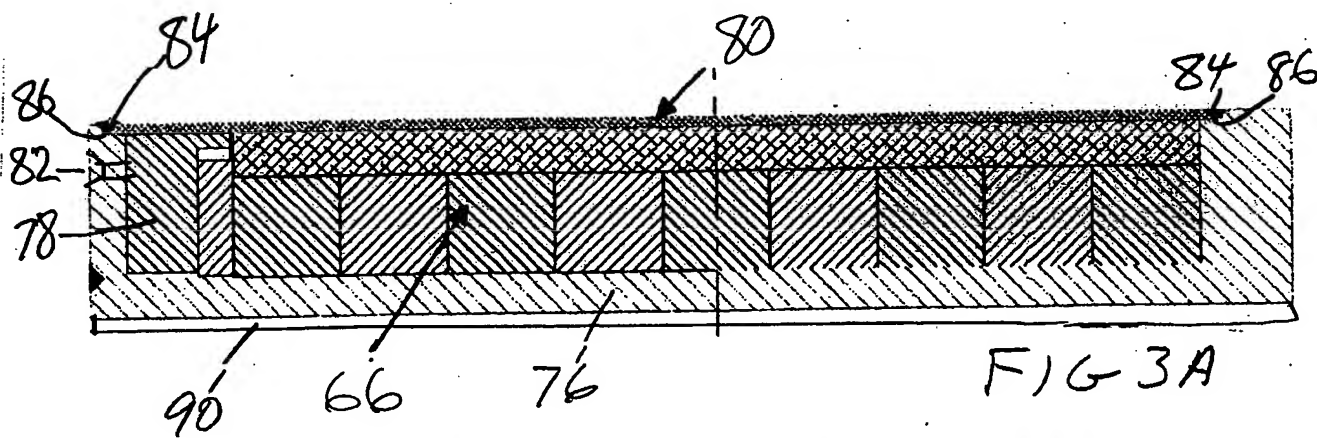
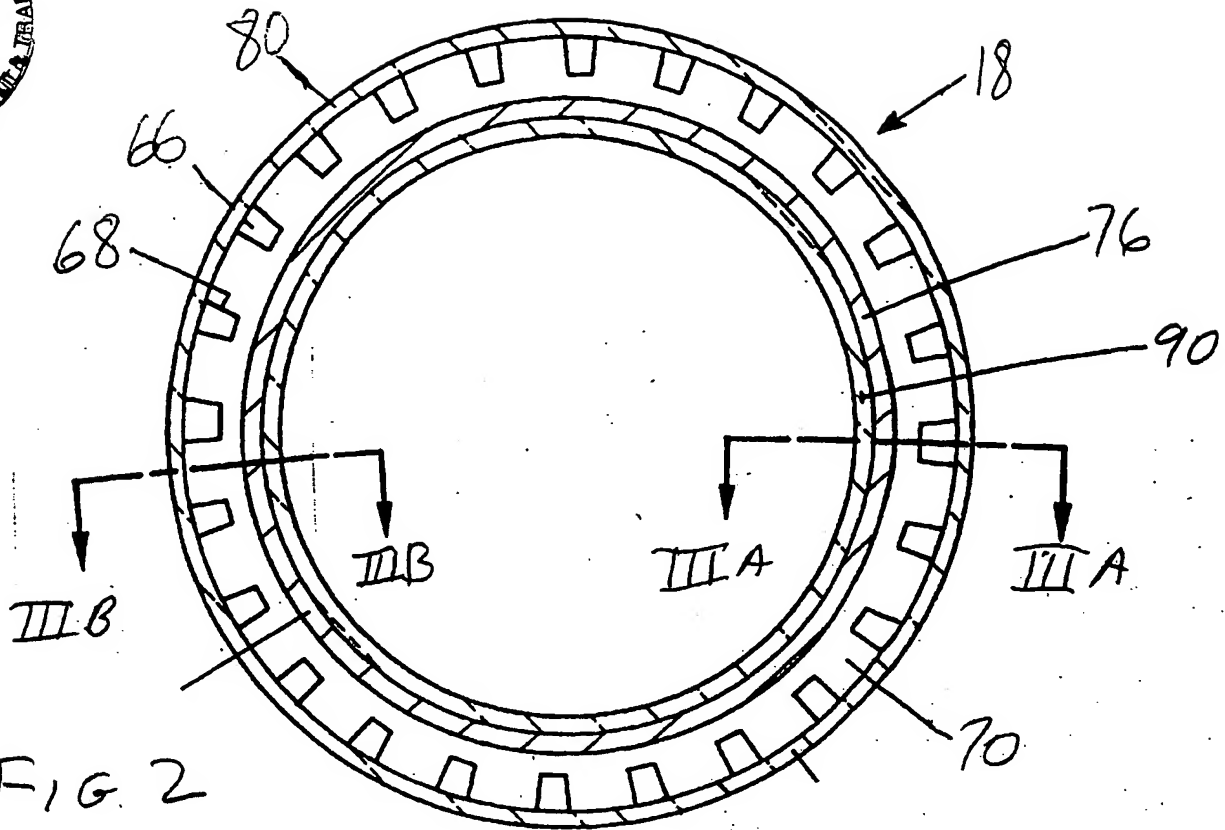


FIG. 1



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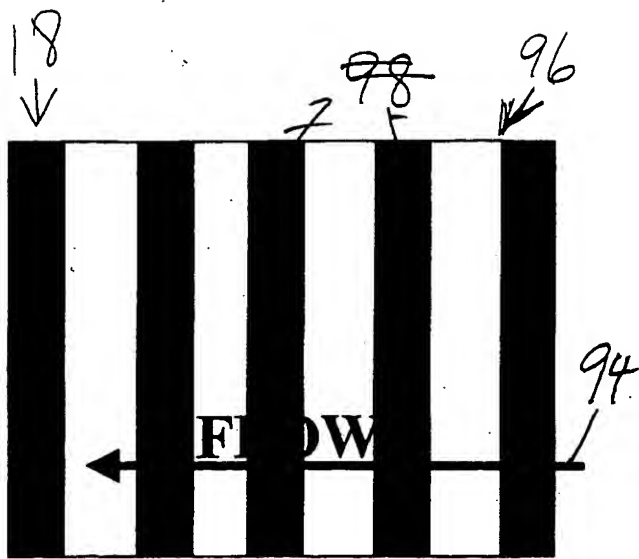


FIG 6A

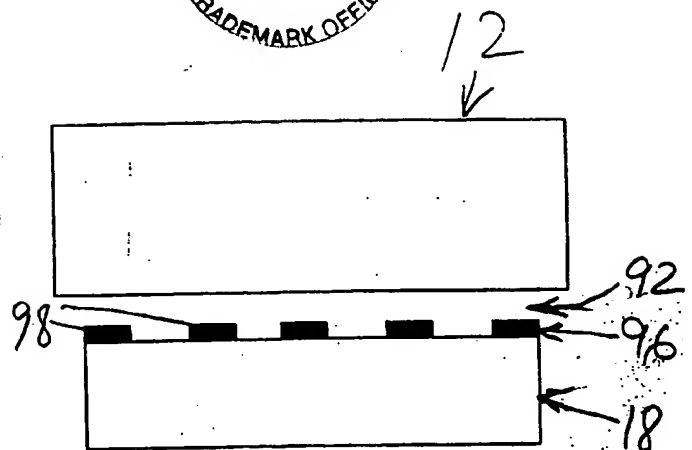


FIG 6B

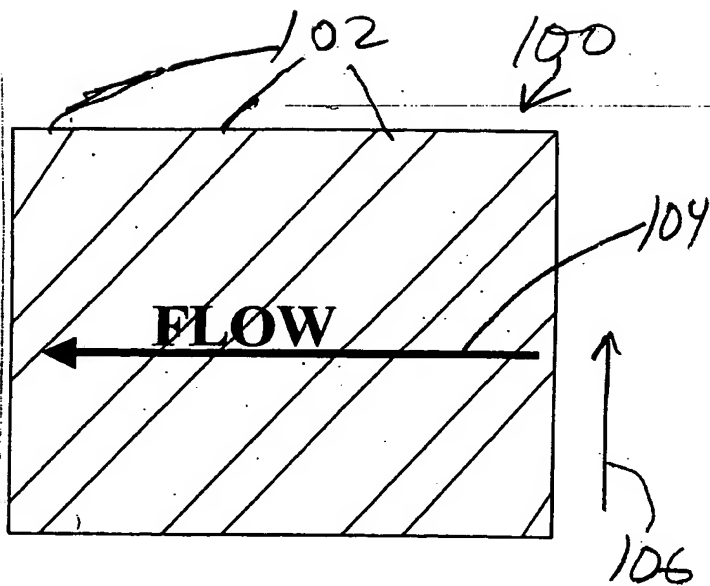


FIG. 7A

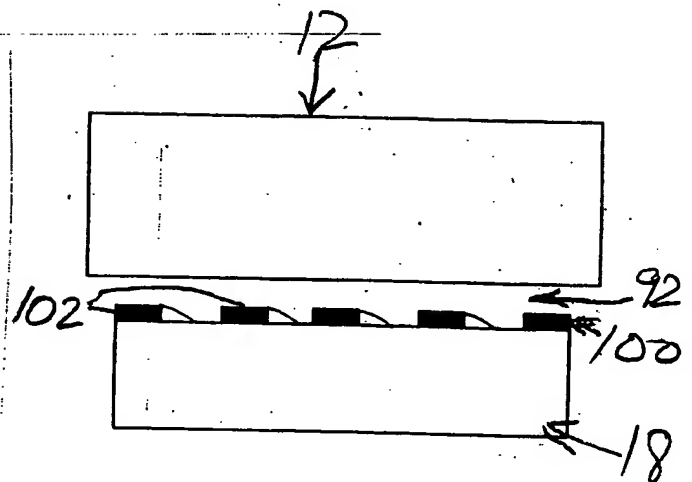


FIG. 7B